

Response to Office Action of: 08/11/2005
Response Dated: 10/11/2005
Title: Gel And Cushioning Devices

App. No.: 09/121,300
Inventor: Bruce G. Kania et al.
Examiner: David H. Willse

Amendment(s) to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-74 (canceled).

Claim 75 (currently amended): A cushion liner for enclosing an amputation stump, said liner comprising a fabric covering having an open end for introduction of said stump and a closed end opposite said open end, said fabric coated seamlessly on only an inside surface thereof with a polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel capable of forming an air-tight seal with said amputation stump when said liner is worn; wherein said liner is configured such that said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel is in contact with the skin of said amputation stump when said liner is worn by a user thereof.

Claim 76 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 75, wherein said fabric is coated on the inside thereof with an uneven distribution of said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel, said uneven distribution resulting in a thinner posterior middle and upper portion, and a thicker distal anterior-medial and anterior-lateral portion.

Claim 77 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 75, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel is arranged in a recessed Achilles configuration.

Claim 78 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 75, having a length from closed end to open end of from 10-25 inches.

Claim 79 (canceled).

Claim 80 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 75, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel has a thickness varying from 0.150-0.500 inches.

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Claims 81-84 (canceled).

Claim 85 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 75, wherein said fabric is completely coated on only the inside thereof with said polymeric cushioning material gel.

Claims 86-87 (canceled).

Claim 88 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 75, wherein said polymeric cushioning material gel includes a biocide.

Claim 89 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 75, wherein said polymeric cushioning material gel includes a vitamin.

Claims 90-91 (canceled).

Claim 92 (currently amended): A cushion liner for enclosing an amputation stump, said liner comprising a fabric covering having an open end for introduction of said stump and a closed end opposite said open end, said fabric coated seamlessly on only an inside thereof with a polymeric cushioning material gel capable of forming an air-tight seal with said amputation stump when said liner is worn; wherein said polymeric cushioning material gel is thicker at said closed end of said fabric than at said open end of said fabric; and wherein said liner is configured such that said polymeric cushioning material gel is in contact with the skin of said amputation stump when said liner is worn by a user thereof.

Claim 93 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 92, wherein said fabric is coated on the inside thereof with an uneven distribution of said polymeric cushioning material gel, said uneven distribution resulting in a thinner posterior middle and upper portion, and a thicker distal anterior-medial and anterior-lateral portion.

Claim 94 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 92, wherein said

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polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel is arranged in a recessed Achilles configuration.

Claim 95 (canceled).

Claim 96 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 92, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel has a thickness varying from 0.150-0.500 inches.

Claims 97-98 (canceled).

Claim 99 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 92, wherein said fabric is completely coated on only the inside thereof with said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel.

Claims 100-101 (canceled).

Claim 102 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 92, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel includes a biocide.

Claim 103 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 92, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel includes a vitamin.

Claims 104-105 (canceled).

Claim 106 (currently amended): A cushion liner for enclosing an amputation stump, said liner comprising a fabric covering having an open end for introduction of said stump and a closed end opposite said open end, said fabric coated seamlessly and directly on only an inside thereof with a polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel capable of forming an air-tight seal with said amputation stump when said liner is worn; wherein said liner is configured such that said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel is in contact with the skin of said amputation stump when said liner is worn by a user thereof.

Claim 107 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 106, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel has a thickness varying from 0.150-0.500 inches.

Claims 108-109 (canceled).

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Claim 110 (currently amended): A cushion liner for enclosing an amputation stump, said liner comprising a fabric covering having an open end for introduction of said stump and a closed end opposite said open end, said fabric coated seamlessly and directly on only an inside thereof with a nonporous polymeric cushioning material gel capable of forming an air-tight seal with said amputation stump when said liner is worn; wherein said polymeric cushioning material gel is thicker at said closed end of said fabric than at said open end of said fabric; and wherein said liner is configured such that said polymeric cushioning material gel is in contact with the skin of said amputation stump when said liner is worn by a user thereof.

Claim 111 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 110, wherein said polymeric cushioning material gel has a thickness varying from 0.150 - 0.500 inches.

Claims 112-113 (canceled).

Claim 114 (currently amended): A cushion liner for enclosing an amputation stump, said liner comprising a fabric covering having an open end for introduction of said stump and a closed end opposite said open end, said fabric coated on only an inside thereof with a polymeric cushioning material gel capable of forming an air-tight seal with said amputation stump when said liner is worn; wherein said liner is donned by inverting and rolling said liner onto said amputation stump; and wherein said liner is configured such that said polymeric cushioning material gel is in contact with the skin of said amputation stump after donning.

Claim 115 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 114, wherein said polymeric cushioning material gel has a thickness varying from 0.150 - 0.500 inches.

Claims 116-117 (canceled).

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Claim 118 (currently amended): A cushion liner for enclosing an amputation stump, said liner comprising a fabric covering having an open end for introduction of said stump and a closed end opposite said open end, said fabric coated on only an inside thereof with a polymeric cushioning material gel capable of forming an air-tight seal with said amputation stump when said liner is worn; wherein said polymeric cushioning material gel is thicker at said closed end of said fabric than at said open end of said fabric; wherein said liner is donned by inverting and rolling said liner onto said amputation stump; and wherein said liner is configured such that said polymeric cushioning material gel is in contact with the skin of said amputation stump after donning.

Claim 119 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 118, wherein said polymeric cushioning material gel has a thickness varying from 0.150 - 0.500 inches.

Claim 120 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 118, further comprising docking means at a distal end thereof.

Claim 121 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 120, wherein said docking means is molded to said fabric on an exterior of said liner.

Claims 122-123 (canceled).

Claim 124 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 75, wherein said polymeric cushioning material gel has a thickness profile such that said polymeric cushioning material gel is thicker at a closed end of said covering than at an open end.

Claim 125 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 75, wherein said polymeric cushioning material gel includes mineral oil.

Claim 126 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 75, further comprising docking means at a distal end thereof.

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Claim 127 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 126, wherein said docking means is molded to said fabric on an exterior of said liner.

Claim 128 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 92, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel includes mineral oil.

Claim 129 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 92, further comprising docking means at a distal end thereof.

Claim 130 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 129, wherein said docking means is molded to said fabric on an exterior of said liner.

Claim 131 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 106, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel is thicker at said closed end of said fabric than at said open end of said fabric.

Claim 132 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 106, wherein said fabric is coated on the inside thereof with an uneven distribution of said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel, said uneven distribution resulting in a thinner posterior middle and upper portion, and a thicker distal anterior-medial and anterior-lateral portion.

Claim 133 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 106, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel is arranged in a recessed Achilles configuration.

Claim 134 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 106, having a length from closed end to open end of from 10-25 inches.

Claim 135 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 106, wherein said fabric is completely coated on only the inside thereof with said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel.

Claim 136 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 106, wherein said

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polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel includes a biocide.

Claim 137 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 106, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel includes a vitamin.

Claim 138 (currently amended): The cushion liner of claim 106, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel includes mineral oil.

Claim 139 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 106, further comprising docking means at a distal end thereof.

Claim 140 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 139, wherein said docking means is molded to said fabric on an exterior of said liner.

Claim 141 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 110, wherein said fabric is coated on the inside thereof with an uneven distribution of said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel, said uneven distribution resulting in a thinner posterior middle and upper portion, and a thicker distal anterior-medial and anterior-lateral portion.

Claim 142 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 110, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel is arranged in a recessed Achilles configuration.

Claim 143 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 110, having a length from closed end to open end of from 10-25 inches.

Claim 144 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 110, wherein said fabric is completely coated on only the inside thereof with said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel.

Claim 145 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 110, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel includes a biocide.

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Claim 146 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 110, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel includes a vitamin.

Claim 147 (currently amended): The cushion liner of claim 110, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel includes mineral oil.

Claim 148 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 110, further comprising docking means at a distal end thereof.

Claim 149 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 148, wherein said docking means is molded to said fabric on an exterior of said liner.

Claim 150 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 114, wherein said fabric is coated on the inside thereof with an uneven distribution of said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel, said uneven distribution resulting in a thinner posterior middle and upper portion, and a thicker distal anterior-medial and anterior-lateral portion.

Claim 151 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 114, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel is arranged in a recessed Achilles configuration.

Claim 152 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 114, having a length from closed end to open end of from 10-25 inches.

Claim 153 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 114, wherein said fabric is completely coated on only the inside thereof with said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel.

Claim 154 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 114, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel includes a biocide.

Claim 155 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 114, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel includes a vitamin.

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Claim 156 (currently amended): The cushion liner of claim 114, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel includes mineral oil.

Claim 157 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 114, further comprising docking means at a distal end thereof.

Claim 158 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 157, wherein said docking means is molded to said fabric on an exterior of said liner.

Claim 159 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 118, wherein said fabric is coated on the inside thereof with an uneven distribution of said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel, said uneven distribution resulting in a thinner posterior middle and upper portion, and a thicker distal anterior-medial and anterior-lateral portion.

Claim 160 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 118, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel is arranged in a recessed Achilles configuration.

Claim 161 (previously presented): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 118, having a length from closed end to open end of from 10-25 inches.

Claim 162 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 118, wherein said fabric is completely coated on only the inside thereof with said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel.

Claim 163 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 118, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel includes a biocide.

Claim 164 (currently amended): The cushion liner as claimed in claim 118, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel includes a vitamin.

Claim 165 (currently amended): The cushion liner of claim 118, wherein said polymeric cushioning ~~material~~ gel includes mineral oil.